Taal Lake, about two hours by automobile from Manila, and Mayon Volcano, located on the southern end of the Island of Luzon. The first is said to be the lowest volcano in the world, and the second is supposed to possess the most symmetrically beautiful volcanic cone in the world. Taal Volcano was last in eruption in 1911, when it eclipsed all previous records by putting on a pyrotechnic display of vast proportions and causing great loss of life. Mount Mayon, with a base eighty miles in circumf erence, sweeps up sheer from the seashore and a large cultivated plain to an elevation of eight thousand feet, and occasionally shows signs of activity. When Mayon was in eruption in 1928, it was estimated by government observers that the vapor column reached a height of twenty miles.

The City of Manila is located on Manila Bay, large in extent and furnishing unlimited anchorage} still further protected from the elements by extensive sea walls is the harbor, inside of which all ships discharge. The entrance into Manila Bay is divided by the Islands of Caballo and Corregidor into two channels, known as the North and South Channels. The Pasig River, which flows from the Laguna de Bay through the center of the City of Manila to empty into Manila Bay, is a short but economically important waterway. On the western coast of the Island of Palawan an underground river, one of the physical wonders of the world, flows into the sea. From whence it comes no one as yet knows, and it enjoys an evil reputation.

The common belief that the heat in the Philippines is unbearable does not accord with the facts. The torrid temperatures experienced in New York and Washington during a hot

*** Section read by Father Miguel Selga, S j., Director of the Weather Bureau.**
**See Rev. Jose Coronas, S J., *The Climate eml "Weather of***